

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
May 20, 2008

Attendance: Laura Olert, Lynn Carlisto, Linda Graffitti, Kim Moros, Susan Taylor, Laura Sweig, Bridget Abatecola, Dawn Morello, Rosemary Raucci, Judi Callan, Kathy Cucciarella

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Lynn Carlisto at 9:20AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes were approved with no changes.

III. Treasurer's Report

- See attached report.
- Discussed and approved 2008-2009 budget.

IV. Committee Reports

V. New Business

VI. Old Business

- By-laws were voted on and approved. The only change was to allow co-presidents. By-laws were signed.
- Council officer positions were voted on and approved.
- Committee Chair positions were announced and approved.

VII. Dr. Marien Meeting

- Dr. Marien spoke about the Knife incident in 7th Grade. The administration and teachers are taking a stand as a group to education students about tolerance. Some teachers/Admn. Will be attending a seminar at BOCES on diversity training. This is going to be a district-wide initiative.
- The Advanced Placement Biology course was not offered because there were not enough seniors registered to offer it. It will be offered next year.

- The High School Principal sent a memo to all teachers in regards to better communication with parents.
- The Somers Snack Shack has been upgraded.

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45AM . The next meeting TBD.

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary

President's Report
May 20,2008

- By Laws voted and approved for SHS, copied and mail
- Still looking for President, Vice President and Treasurer still open for SHS
- PTSA hospitality preparations are being made for SHS Graduation
- Driver's Safety program with 11 grade will take lace June 3rd for parking permits for the 2008/2009 school year.

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
April 29, 2008

Attendance: Laura Olert, Lynn Carlisto, Lynn Adams, Linda Graffitti, Kim Moros, Susan Taylor, Angela Welsh, Susette Acocella, Lisa Immerblum, Laura Sweig

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Lynn Carlisto at 9:20AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes were approved with changes to attendance list. Added names that were omitted on minutes.

III. Treasurer's Report

- See attached report.
- Discussed budget for next year and reviewed budget numbers from this past school year.

IV. Committee Reports

- Website: In the "What's being discussed?" section of the website, talk about nominating committee.
- Nominating: Reviewed the names of those who volunteered for committees and officer positions. There will be a vote at the May 20th meeting.

V. New Business

- Voted to make Bus Driver Appreciation Chair a council position. It was voted in and approved. Also have each unit have a representative to help out.
- Created a list of issues to discuss with Dr. Marien concerning response from teachers and administrators in the High School. Specific questions for Dr. Marien include:
 - i. Why was AP Biology Class dropped?
 - ii. Why teachers are not getting back to parents?
 - iii. Why are the bathrooms closed often in SHS and why is there a septic smell in the back of the school?
 - iv. How do we get the SIS burners to work? All are broke except for one.

- Meet the Candidates Night – There are three candidates running for two spots. On May 5th there is a night to ask candidates questions. PTA will send out communication about the night and PTA needs three questions to submit. E-Mail Lynn with your questions.

VI. Old Business

- SRO: Council content that communication went out to the community that the SRO position was approved. Send out a thank you letter to those who sent a letter.
- Budget Vote: Website will communicate date of vote.

VII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45AM . The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20th at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary

SIS President's Report

April 28, 2008

At our last General Meeting we just made a quorum and were able to accept our slate of officers for next year. Since attendance has been so poor at the General Meetings we will not have the May meeting. Our by-laws only require 3 meetings and we have met that amount this year. We will vote in the budget in September.

Our Education Committee and Garden Committee have been very busy. They have arranged for the children to participate in the town wide clean up. The town will be reporting at one of the Town Hall Meetings at SIS how much garbage the children picked up. They have also spearheaded the SIS Stainless Steel Water bottles for going green as well as the Community Garden Day. Details are available on our website.

At the Book Fair we collected Sales Tax for the first time. We will update all next month on how it worked out.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Adams and Linda Graffitti

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
March 18, 2008

Attendance: Laura Oler, Lynn Carlisto, Lynn Adams, ~~Linda Morgante~~, Kathy Cucchiarella, Carol Cirioco, Judi Callan, Laura Sweig, ~~Linda Graffiti~~, Kim Moros, Susette Acocella, Lisa Immerblum, Debbie Aidala, Eady Parody, Jane Harsha

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Lynn Carlisto at 9:25AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes were approved with no changes.

III. Treasurer's Report

- See attached report.
- The \$5,000 from Senator Liebell's office did come in.

IV. Committee Reports

- Website: Send out an e-mail reminder of budget and library voting dates. Also, please remind newsletter chairs not to put last names of kids or phone numbers in any communications.
- Fundraising: Kim Moros spoke sent around a flyer about selling candles.

V. New Business

- Pat Miller and colleagues made a presentation to the group in regards to the Somers Library expansion project. There will be a tour of the building on March 29th. If the project is approved, it will begin in 2009 and completed in 18 months.
- State budget issue: proposal to cap property taxes. Jane left a letter if the PTA is interested in sending out to community. Council decided to post letter on website to give PTA members information about this issue but will not push it like the SRO letters.

VI. Old Business

- SRO: Small number of schools are affected (about 100). Mostly suburban/rural who do not have their own police department. There was a good response from the community in support of the SRO.
- Council by-laws: each unit has to vote on the council by-laws. Need 30 day notice of vote. Primrose will be May 19th, SIS and SMS will be April 9th. Call Judi Callan with any questions. SHS also need to approve by-laws.

VII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50AM . The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 29th at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
February 12, 2008

Attendance: Laura Olert, Lynn Carlisto, Lynn Adams, Linda Morgante, Kathy Cucchiarella, Susan Taylor, Carol Gierco, Judi Callan, Laura Sweig, Lisa Immerblum, Linda Graffitti

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Lynn Carlisto at 9:25AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes were approved with no changes.

III. Treasurer's Report

- See attached report.

IV. Committee Reports

- Parent Programs: Parent University will be on February 26th. Enrollment is low at this time, but anticipated to grow.
- Education Committee: At SIS, planning a "Green Week", planting a garden and creating a database of parent's careers and inviting them in to speak to the students. Call Susette Acocella with any suggestions.
- Primrose Family Fun Night: The dunk tank will be eliminated this year because of insurance reasons.

V. New Business

- Security Resource Officer: Need to create a letter to ask the state to keep SRO in the budget. Need to get letters out by March 10th.
- Pat Miller from the Somers Library will be at the next council meeting to discuss expansion project.

VI. Old Business

- Teacher involvement/representation at PTA functions: Decided to let the Unit Presidents handle teacher involvement as they see fit. Presidents will share what works in each of their schools.
- Nominating Committee: Lisa Immerblum and Laura Olert will be chairs

- Membership: Primrose, SIS and SMS decided to go for \$10 membership with no family membership and you get a directory when you join. SHS will keep \$6 and \$10 but will also tie membership to getting a directory.

VII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50AM . The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 18th at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
January 15, 2008

Attendance: Laura Olert, Lynn Carlisto, Kathy Cucchiarella, Susette Acocella, Leah Irvine, Susan Taylor, Kim Moros, Lorena Cole, Angela Welsh, Katie Coppola, Judi Callan, Lisa Immerblum, Debbie Aidala

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Lynn Carlisto at 9:15AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from last meeting were reviewed and approved with the following changes: Peer Leadership Program-Debbie Aidala (not Lynn Carlisto) will contact group for ideas.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Report was handed out at the meeting.

IV. Committee Reports

- Parent Programs: Final copy of invitation is in print and will be ready Thursday. Homework pass is approved by Mr. Griffiths and Ms. Page for students that attend that evening. All speakers are booked. Need a hostess committee to set up coffee/tea etc. Debbie Aidala volunteered to set up. Sign-in begins at 5:30 and programs runs from 6:30-9:30PM. Executive Board needs to talk this up and get people to attend.
- Website: Laura passed out list of district staff that are subscribed to PTA e-mail. A very small majority of the staff are subscribed. Talk to Dr. Marien about having information about closings or delayed openings on the website especially if Somers Schools are open and other districts are closed. Laura handed out a list of how many parents in each grade signed up for the website.
- Welcome: Lynn is working with a graphics company to get new magnets. Leah suggested getting key tabs to hang off your key chains for quick reference phone numbers. Gussie wanted to know if we should still include the talent pool list in the welcome packet that is given out during kindergarten registration. Lynn will speak to Gussie to discuss different ideas for using and getting people for the talent pool.

- **Education Committee:** Susette met with Mr. Griffiths and he came up with a topic about Parent Involvement. There is a meeting scheduled for February 7th at SIS. Doreen Gadigan met with SMS and felt that the education committee is not necessary at this time and topics can be handled at the informal coffees that are held at SMS.

V. **New Business**

- **Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast:** This has become a huge event. We now have 125 drivers. Lynn Carlisto suggested having the breakfast at a lower scale so that we get enough volunteers to help with the event. Katie Coppola and Angela Welsh are heading up the committee this year. Leah suggested that whoever chairs the committee decides how big or small they would like the event.
- **Nominating Committee:** Need a chairperson for council

VI. **Old Business**

- **New ideas for fundraising activities:** Tag Sale – Destination Imagination is doing a tag sale at the end of April/early May. Possibly have the PTA Tag Sale in June.

VII. **Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40AM . The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 12th at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary

President's Report – Primrose Elementary School – 2/8/08
Kathy Cucchiarella

- Kindergarten Registration will be held 2/13 and 2/14. PTA will have a table and is going to see if we can sign up our incoming Kindergarten families on constant contact that day.
- We have added a teacher to our Primrose Exec Board – Ms. Kim Laurie. She will attend our 2/11 Exec Board Meeting.
- Teri Ariano – Somers Historical – coming to speak to the 2nd grade about the history of Somers on 2/26.
- Will take a vote on PTA Membership at 2/11 Exec Board Meeting. Will then put before a vote at our March meeting.
- Will be forming our Nominating Committee on 2/11

SIS President's Report

February 12, 2008

Last Executive Board we were unable to get a quorum. In this month's newsletter our President's Letter asks, maybe pleads with people to consider volunteering next year. This also kicks off our efforts to set-up next years slate of Officers and Executive Board. We are also going to make the Bus Driver Appreciation Committee an every year committee even if we aren't hosting. We think you need someone in the building for copying, distributing and collecting even if we are not hosting.

We are also going to put on our agenda for this month's executive board a possible letter writing campaign for Officer Todd.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Adams and Linda Graffitti

Presidents message SMS Feb 08

The board agreed to up the membership to 10 a person, do away with the family membership and also tie the directory to membership.

Our scholarship needs have dramatically increased this year (3 fold) SHS might want to make note of that, as it is the needs of the 8th grade that created a crunch.

Nominating committee is working hard to get 08-09 in order.

Looking forward to a great Bus Driver appreciation thanks to Katie and Angela.

Respectfully submitted -

Leah Irvine

Presidents Report
SHS PTSA

SHS PTSA Senior Fashion Show was a great success.

SHS Nominating Committee is still unsuccessful in getting volunteers to fill board positions.

SHS Scholarship Committee has completed reviewing scholarship applications and is in the process of finalizing the five recipients of 1000.00 PTSA Scholarships.

General Meeting on May 6th will present new slate and approval of renewal of by-laws.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Aidala
SHS PTSA President

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
May 8, 2007

Attendance: Carol Cirieco, Laura Olert, Lynn Adams, Bridget Abatecola, Lorena Cole, Linda ~~Griffith~~ ^{Griffin}, Kathy Cucchiarella, Jane Hellberg, Ellen Zuppani, Jane Harsha, Leah Irvine, Fran Eckel, Linda Morgante, Dineen DeVito, Laura Sweig, Lynn Carlisto

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Carol Cirieco at 9:18AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from last meeting were reviewed and approved with the following changes: None

III. Treasurer's Report

IV. Superintendent's Report

- SHS Fire Drills – electrical line to the well was cut. Alarms are going off falsely. This is due to construction going on. Dust is causing alarms to go off.
- SMS Cafeteria should be completed for September.

V. Committee Reports

- Web Site – Running smoothly.
- Safe Homes – Should we continue using the form? Is it useful? Rose DeBellis will review the form from a Legal standpoint.
- Membership – Ask for E-Mail address on form for PTA Website
- Reflections – May 18th, State and Regional Awards Ceremony. 12 participants will be attending from Somers.
- SEF –
- Parent Programs – Bring back program on Menopause.

VI. President's Report

- SMS – 8 kids left rooms on Washington Trip. Will not go on remaining trips but the Washington trip will go on next year.
- Primrose – Teachers are not allowed to use credit cards for any purchases (district wide rule). Need to discuss with Dr. Marien.

VII. New Business

- Meeting with Administration – Discussed issues at SHS and the communication is much more open. Good discussion. Talked about security, teachers must respond to parents within 48 hours. Spoke about disrespectfulness from teachers to students.
- PTA Spring Conference is on May 22nd at the White Plains Crown Plaza.
- Insurance bills due shortly and PTA Form A needs to be submitted by June 15th
- BUDGET VOTE and BOARD OF ED. ELECTIONS – May 15th, 2007

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30AM.

Year end get together 6/13/07
~~The next meeting will be on June, 2007.~~

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary 6/07

Somers PTA
Council Meeting
September 18, 2007

Attendance: Carol Cierico, Laura Olert, Lynn Adams, Kathy Cucchiarella, Lynn Carlisto, Judi Callan, Linda Graffitti, Susan Taylor, Susette Acocella, Kim Moros, Debbie Aidala, Leah Irvine, Linda Morgante, Fran Eckel, Laura Sweig, Lisa Immerblum

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order by Lynn Carlisto at 9:15AM

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from last meeting were reviewed and approved with the following changes: Correction to spelling of Linda Graffitti's name and date of last meeting.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Review of 2007-2008 budget. Budget voted on and approved.
- \$29,167.26 bank balance. \$18,779.00 due for back to school supplies

IV. Committee Reports

- School Supplies: 1st Grade sales were the highest and they went down from there through the grades. Leah Irvine would like feedback on the continuation of the Summer School Store at SMS. It is very costly to the PTA.
- Red Ribbon Week: No report
- Parent Programs: No report
- Reflections: Flyer has been sent out or is being sent out later this week. Packet is available online at the National PTA website.
- Book Dedication: Going well
- Welcome Committee: Gussie will meet with all Chairs to discuss ideas to move forward with committee.
- Website: There is a designer for each school except Primrose. Submit news that is going on. Send to Laura Sweig if news pertains to more than one school or else send to your school web designer. 587 people are signed up for website. Submit ideas for a contest to get people interested

in the website. Need to update the "We're Discussing" part of the Council website. Some suggestions: school supplies

V. President's Report

- Individual President Reports will be submitted.

VI. New Business

- Open Committees: Fundraising, Health and Safety, Legislation, and Public Relations Chairs are open and need to be filled. Susette Acocella accepted Chair position for Education.

VII. Old Business

- Council Meetings – Adjourn meetings and then meet with Dr. Marien. Presidents and Vice Presidents will be only council members who remain for Superintendent's update.
- Structure of Meetings – Will try this format and we can discuss if we want to change format in the future.

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50AM. The next meeting will be on October 16, 2007 at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted:
Laura Olert, Recording Secretary 9/07